Plants – Our Essential Companions

*Summer workshop for middle grades and secondary teachers!*

Featuring digitization efforts currently underway in the Valdosta State University Herbarium, this five-day workshop will emphasize the significance of plants in ecosystems and in our daily lives, the importance of technology in preserving and disseminating scientific data, and the use of herbarium specimens and data in promoting scientific research. Hands-on activities in the field and in the herbarium will include the preparation and documentation of voucher specimens, plant identification, digitization of herbarium specimens, and uses of specimens and data preserved in biological collections. Lessons will include topics on rare, threatened and endangered species, invasive species, and the use of on-line resources in teaching. This workshop is offered through financial support from the National Science Foundation (DBI 1054366, J.R. Carter, PI).

Enrollment will be limited to eight. Participants successfully completing the workshop will receive 3 PLUs and a $500 stipend. For more information regarding the workshop contact Dr. Richard Carter

Dates and times: June 9–13, 2014, 9 AM–12 PM (with a 15 minute morning break) and 1:30 PM–5 PM (with a 15 minute afternoon break) = 6 hours per day/30 hours for the week

Location: Bailey Science Center, Room BC 1040, Valdosta State University, Valdosta, Georgia

Instructor: Dr. Richard Carter, a field and herbarium botanist specializing in flora of the Georgia coastal plain and taxonomy of sedges, has been on the faculty at Valdosta State University since 1984. He has taught a variety of courses, including General Botany, Plant Taxonomy, Local Flora, Dendrology, History and Use of Medicinal Plants, and Natural History for Middle School Teachers. He also actively curates the Valdosta State University Herbarium, a collection of more than 65,000 plant specimens. He has completed rare plant inventories and rare species status surveys for the Georgia Department of Natural Resources and the U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service and has received numerous grants and contracts in support of his research efforts in floristic botany and the herbarium. He is currently PI on a National Science Foundation grant that will produce high-resolution photographs and an associated database of all voucher specimens in the Valdosta State University Herbarium and serve these images and data on-line. Carter received his B.S. in Zoology and M.S. in Botany from Mississippi State University and Ph.D. in General Biology with emphasis in Botany from Vanderbilt University.

Registration through Continuing Education, Valdosta State University, Valdosta, Georgia
Registration fee $25